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Attorney Docket No. 2003-0111

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (currently amended) A protective cover for an optical fiber cable coil stored on a fiber cable reel, comprising:
 - an elongate flexible wrapping member having a length sufficient to extend substantially around an outer circumferential surface of the optical fiber cable coil;
 - a plurality of insulating members disposed on the wrapping member, said insulating members being arranged in proximity to each other to form an insulating region; and
 - a fastening member arranged for fastening the wrapping member around the outer circumferential surface of the optical fiber cable coil;wherein:
 - said wrapping member includes a plurality of pockets, and said insulating members are disposed within said pockets; and
 - wherein each of the pockets overlaps another pocket that are is adjacent along the wrapping member, and each of the insulating members disposed in those pockets, overlap overlaps another insulating member.
2. (original) The protective cover of claim 1, wherein the flexible wrapping member is constructed of fabric.

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3. (original) The protective cover of claim 2, wherein the fabric is nylon.
- 4-5. (canceled)
6. (original) The protective cover of claim 4, wherein long sides of the pockets substantially abut long sides of adjacent pockets.
7. (original) The protective cover of claim 1, wherein the insulating members are elongate in shape and have a length substantially perpendicular to the length of the wrapping member.
8. (original) The protective cover of claim 1, wherein said insulating members are bonded to said wrapping member.
9. (original) The protective cover of claim 1, wherein the insulating members are ceramic blocks.
10. (original) The protective cover of claim 1, wherein the wrapping member has a width sufficiently narrow to be placed between flanges of the fiber cable reel.
11. (original) The protective cover of claim 1, wherein the wrapping member has a width sufficiently wide to be placed over flanges of the fiber cable reel.
12. (original) The protective cover of claim 1, wherein the insulating members are removable from the wrapping member.

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13. (original) The protective cover of claim 1, wherein the fastening member is a cinch strap attached to the wrapping member and extending the length of the wrapping member.

14. (currently amended) A method for protecting an optical fiber cable coil stored on a fiber cable reel, comprising the steps of:

providing an elongate flexible wrapping member having a length sufficient to extend substantially around an outer circumferential surface of the optical fiber cable coil;

providing a plurality of insulating members disposed on the wrapping member, said insulating members being arranged in proximity to each other to form an insulating region;

providing a fastening member arranged for fastening the wrapping member around the outer circumferential surface of the optical fiber cable coil;

wherein:

said wrapping member includes a plurality of pockets, and said insulating members are disposed within said pockets; and

each of the pockets overlaps another pocket that is adjacent along the wrapping member, and each of the insulating members disposed in those pockets overlaps another insulating member;

wrapping a the protective cover around an outer circumferential surface of the optical fiber cable coil, the protective cover including an elongate wrapping member having a plurality of pockets containing ceramic insulating members; and

fastening the protective cover around the outer circumferential surface of the optical fiber cable coil.

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15. (original) The method of claim 14, wherein the step of wrapping the protective cover around an outer circumferential surface of the cable includes placing the cover between flanges of the fiber cable reel.

16. (original) The method of claim 14, wherein the step of wrapping the protective cover around an outer circumferential surface of the cable includes placing the cover over circumferences of flanges of the fiber cable reel.

17. (original) The method of claim 14, wherein the step of fastening the protective cover around the outer surface of the optical fiber cable coil includes cinching at least one strap around the cover.

18. (original) The method of claim 14, wherein the pockets are elongate in shape and have a length substantially perpendicular to the length of the wrapping member.

19. (canceled)